

the U.N. is currently unfit to operate in its current state and must be reformed in order to restore its integrity and its authority.

Through the United Nations Reform Act of 2005, the United States, as the greatest contributor to U.N. peace-keeping, will do away with all of these scandals.

#### UPHOLDING THE PROMISES OF SOCIAL SECURITY

(Mr. BERRY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, when this President was reelected, he announced proudly that he had political capital and he intended to spend it. He intended to replace Social Security. All of his proposals provide that we would replace Social Security with something less: "Let us give the working people of this country less than we promised."

□ 1015

Social Security is a covenant between our working people and the United States Government. They are entitled to get what they have paid for. They have worked all their days and paid honorably into the system. Now this President and some of my colleagues on the Republican side say, I am sorry, we just do not want to do that anymore, so we are not going to pay you. You paid into the system; that is just your tough luck. We are just not going to do that.

We do not need to replace Social Security, we just need to fund it.

#### SUPPORTING CONTINUED OPERATION OF DETENTION FACILITY IN GUANTANAMO BAY

(Mr. WESTMORELAND asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call on my colleagues in the House to support the continued operation of the detention facility in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

If it is proven that detainees have suffered abusive treatment, we should take corrective action, but continue to operate the detention facility.

I ask my colleagues, what good does it do to simply move to a different location? The fact is, we have to put these enemy combatants somewhere. What better place than a heavily guarded island?

Mr. Speaker, the detainees at Guantanamo are not there for jaywalking or stealing a Snickers bar from the 7-Eleven. They are well-trained, hate-filled jihadists inflamed by an anti-American ideology. If they were released back into the wild, they would not return to a quiet family life of shepherding in the mountains of Afghanistan. They would simply take up arms to fight Americans again.

Already we have recaptured combatants on the battlefield who had been

released from Guantanamo. We should learn a lesson from that. Let us make sure they stay there.

#### ABUSE OF POWER BY REPUBLICANS

(Ms. LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, how can we spread democracy abroad if it is being, quite frankly, abused here in the House?

The Republican abuse of power appears to no know bounds. Last Friday the Republicans literally cut off debate on the renewal of the USA PATRIOT Act. Apparently, it was not enough to bar witnesses critical of the PATRIOT Act, or to force Democrats to fight to get a critical witness in front of the committee, or to schedule that hearing for a day when the House was not in session. When dissenting voices started to speak, the hearing was abruptly ended, and the microphones were turned off.

Critics of the PATRIOT Act say that it represents the threat of unaccountable, undemocratic government, and the behavior of its Republican supporters here only serves to prove that point and is proof of that.

Hubert Humphrey once said that "Freedom is hammered out on the anvil of discussion, dissent, and debate."

I hope that this Republican abuse of power will be ended before it is allowed to undermine our freedom.

Once again, how can we spread democracy abroad when it is being abused right here at home in the House of Representatives?

#### HONORING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF EL MUNDO

(Mr. PORTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 25th anniversary of one of southern Nevada's first Spanish-language publications, the El Mundo.

I would also like to recognize the dedication and perseverance of my longtime friend Eddie Escabedo, El Mundo's founder and publisher.

What began as a truly local community newsletter has grown to a newspaper that reaches 50,000 Nevadans and many more through radio and television affiliations.

I applaud Eddie and all of those who have assisted him throughout these 25 years. The service that you provide the Spanish-speaking community in southern Nevada has benefited us all by demonstrating our common needs, despite our diversity.

Eddie, it was great to see you in Washington last week. Your efforts to provide our Spanish-speaking students with information on the resources available to them to continue their

education are truly an invaluable service. I look forward to working with you on the Hispanic Scholarship Directory long into the future. I congratulate you and El Mundo on this milestone and wish you all the best of luck in the next 25 years.

Eddie, I am proud to call you a friend. Congratulations.

#### URGING THE PROTECTION OF AMERICA'S FLYING PUBLIC FROM THE THREAT OF SHOULDER-FIRED MISSILES

(Ms. BEAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. BEAN. Mr. Speaker, I am here to urge my colleagues to act now to protect America's flying public from the threat of shoulder-fired missiles.

Unfortunately, today, thousands of portable, easy-to-use anti-aircraft missiles are in the hands of terrorist groups around the world, including al Qaeda. The FBI, CIA, State Department, and White House recognize this serious threat. Now is the time for Congress to act.

Mr. Speaker, the Department of Homeland Security has been diligently working to apply successful military technology to our commercial aircraft, and now, for the same cost as in-flight entertainment systems, we can install proven portable defense systems on passenger jets.

Just this week, the Chicago Tribune editorialized that the financial costs of safeguarding our airlines are well worth it. However, while we have spent billions of dollars on transportation security since 9/11, Congress has not yet committed to providing such protection.

Last week, the gentleman from New York (Mr. ISRAEL) and I introduced the Commercial Airline Missile Defense Act, authorizing the TSA to provide missile defense systems to our commercial passenger jets. Today I urge my colleagues to cosponsor H.R. 2780 and join us in protecting America's business and family travelers.

#### DOD APPROPRIATION

(Mr. GINGREY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 2863, the Department of Defense authorization bill.

As we continue assessing our national defense strategy to guard our Nation from threats at home and abroad, we must provide the necessary funding for our military needs to keep us safe.

We in Congress often praise our service men and women for the fine job they do, but lipservice is not enough. We must back up our words with action.

The 2006 defense appropriation bill does just that. Mr. Speaker, \$366 billion